

# CITY OF DURANGO

## 2020 Drinking Water

### Consumer Confidence Report for Calendar Year 2019

#### Public Water System ID CO 0134150

*Esta es información importante. Si no la pueden leer, necesitan que alguien se la traduzca.*

***We are pleased to present to you this year's water quality report. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.***

#### **General Information about Drinking Water**

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV-AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, or to receive a copy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and microbiological contaminants call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791, or by visiting [epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water](http://epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- ◆ **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- ◆ **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- ◆ **Pesticides and herbicides**, that may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- ◆ **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also may come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- ◆ **Radioactive contaminants**, that can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water

provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

#### **Our Water Source(s)**

Source	Water Type
Florida River	Surface Water
Animas River	Surface Water
City Reservoir No. 1	Surface Water
Terminal Reservoir	Surface Water

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has provided a Source Water Assessment Report for our water supply. You may obtain a copy of the report by visiting <http://wqcdcompliance.com/ccr> or by contacting City of Durango Water Treatment staff at 970-375-4887.

Potential sources of contamination in our source water area come from: EPA Superfund Sites, EPA Hazardous Waste Generators, EPA Chemical Inventory/Storage Sites, Permitted Wastewater Discharge Sites, Aboveground, Underground and Leaking Storage Tank Sites, Solid Waste Sites, Existing/Abandoned Mine Sites, Other Facilities, Commercial/Industrial/Transportation, High Intensity Residential, Low Intensity Residential, Urban Recreational Grasses, Row Crops, Pasture / Hay, Deciduous Forest, Evergreen Forest, Mixed Forest, Septic Systems, Oil / Gas Wells, Road Miles.

The Source Water Assessment Report provides a screening-level evaluation of potential contamination that **could** occur. It **does not** mean that the contamination **has or will** occur. We can use this information to evaluate the need to improve our current water treatment capabilities and prepare for future contamination threats. This can help us ensure that quality finished water is delivered to your homes. In addition, the source water assessment results provide a starting point for developing a source water protection plan.

Please contact City of Durango Water Treatment staff at 970-375-4887 to learn more about what you can do to help protect your drinking water sources, any questions about the Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report, to learn more about our system, or to attend scheduled public meetings. We want you, our valued customers, to be informed about the services we provide and the quality water we deliver to you every day.

## Terms and Abbreviations

The following definitions will help you understand the terms and abbreviations used in this report:

- ◆ **Action Level (AL)** - The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must comply with.
- ◆ **Alkalinity** – The capacity of water’s ability to neutralize acid based on its dissolved mineral content.
- ◆ **BDL (Below detectable limit or level)** – Due to limitations of chemical analysis procedures, some small concentrations cannot be precisely measured. These concentrations are said to be below the detectable limit.
- ◆ **EPTD (Entry Point to Distribution)** – This is the point where the water leaves the Water Treatment Plant and enters the Distribution System. It is the site for many of our yearly required samples.
- ◆ **Gross Alpha, Including Ra, Excluding Rn & U** - This is the gross alpha particle activity compliance value. It includes radium-226, but excludes radon-222 and uranium.
- ◆ **Hardness** – A measurement of dissolved minerals (primarily calcium and magnesium) in water.
- ◆ **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- ◆ **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - The “Goal” is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- ◆ **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- ◆ **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)**  
The level of a drinking water disinfectant, below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- ◆ **Microscopic Particulate Analysis (MPA)** - An analysis of surface water organisms and indicators in water. This analysis can be used to determine performance of a surface water treatment plant or to determine the existence of surface water influence on a ground water well.
- ◆ **Micrograms per liter (µg/L)** - one microgram per liter corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000. Same as *ppb* or parts per billion.
- ◆ **Milligrams per liter (mg/L)** - one milligram per liter corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000. Same as *ppm* or parts per million.
- ◆ **Minimum Reporting Limit (MRL)** – Laboratories lowest reportable value, levels below are reported as Below Detection Limit (BDL).
- ◆ **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** - Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
- ◆ **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
- ◆ **Running Annual Average (RAA)** - An average of monitoring results for the previous 12 calendar months.
- ◆ **Treatment Technique (TT)** - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- ◆ **Violation** – A failure to meet a Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulation.

## Detected Contaminants

The City of Durango routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following tables show all detections found in the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019 unless otherwise noted. The State of Colorado requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. The “Range” column in the tables below will show a single value for those contaminants that were sampled only once. Violations and Formal Enforcement Actions, if any, are reported in the last section of this report.

Note: Only detected contaminants appear in this report. If no tables appear in this section, that means that City of Durango did not detect any contaminants in the last round of monitoring.

“*Cryptosporidium* is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the United States. Although filtration removes *cryptosporidium*, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of *cryptosporidium* may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks.

However, immuno-compromised people are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. *Cryptosporidium* must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.”

**Microorganism Contaminants Sampled in the Source Water**

<b>Source Water Microorganism</b>	<b>Collection Date</b>	<b>Number of Positives</b>	<b>Sample Size</b>	<b>Typical Source</b>
CRYPTOSPORIDIUM	2016 - 2018	0	24	Infected human and animal feces
E. COLI	2016 - 2018	11	24	Infected human and animal feces

**Inorganic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System**

<b>Inorganics</b>	<b>Collection Date</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Typical Source</b>
BARIUM	6/12/2019	0.065	0.065	mg/L	2.0	2.0	Discharge of drilling wastes, discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits.
FLUORIDE	2019	0.709 average	0.575 – 0.820	mg/L	4.0	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.

**Disinfectant Residual Sampled in the Distribution System**

<b>Disinfectant</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>MRDL</b>	<b>MRDLG</b>	<b>Source</b>
CHLORINE	2019	0.763	0.3 – 1.77	mg/L	4.0	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

**Disinfection Byproducts Sampled in the Distribution System**

<b>Disinfection Byproducts</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>Highest RAA</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>Typical Source</b>
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	2019	22.85	7.80 – 36.60	22.85	µg/L	60.0	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (TTHMs)	2019	35.35	8.37 – 56.50	35.35	µg/L	80.0	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination

**Removal Ratio of Disinfection Byproduct Precursors**

<b>Disinfection Byproducts Precursors</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>TT Minimum</b>	<b>TT Violation</b>	<b>Typical Sources</b>
TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON Removal Ratio	2019	1.41	1.0 – 2.0	1.00	No	Naturally present in the environment

Lead and Copper Sampled in the Distribution System					
Contaminant	Year	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Unit	AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2019	0.08	mg/L	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD	2019	0.0019	mg/L	0.015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

Radionuclides Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System							
Radionuclides	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
RADIUM, COMBINED (226, 228)	6/14/2016	0.1	0.1	pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA	6/14/2016	0.9	0.9	pCi/L	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits

Summary of Turbidity Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System				
Turbidity	Sample Date	Result	TT Requirement	Typical Source
TURBIDITY	8/15/2019	Highest single measurement: 0.086 NTU	Maximum 1.0 NTU for any single measurement	Soil runoff
	Continuous Monitoring	100% of samples meeting TT requirement for our technology	In any month, at least 95% of samples must be less than 0.3 NTU	

Microorganism Contaminants Sampled in the Distribution System					
Microbiological	Result	MCL	Violation	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL COLIFORM	40 samples per month, 0 Positive	MCL: Systems that collect 40 samples per month – No more than 2 positive results per month	No	0	Naturally present in the environment
E. COLI	0 Positive	MCL: A routine sample and a repeat sample are Total Coliform Positive, and one of these is also Fecal Coliform/E.coli Positive	No	0	Human and animal fecal waste

### Secondary Contaminants

*Secondary standards are non-enforceable guidelines for contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor or color) in drinking water. EPA recommends these standards but does not require water systems to comply.*

Secondary Contaminants/ Other Monitoring	Collection Date	Result	Range	Unit	Secondary Standard
ALKALINITY	2019	93.3 RAA	52.8 – 131	mg/L	NO MCL
CALCIUM HARDNESS	1/1/19 – 8/14/19	90.8 RAA	48.4 – 120	mg/L	NO MCL
CALCIUM HARDNESS	1/1/19 – 8/14/19	5.31 RAA	2.83 – 7.01	grains/gal	NO MCL
TOTAL HARDNESS (includes calcium and magnesium)	8/15/19 – 12/31/19	99.8 RAA	70 – 133.2	mg/L	NO MCL
TOTAL HARDNESS (includes calcium and magnesium)	8/15/19 – 12/31/19	5.83 RAA	4.09 – 7.78	grains/gal	NO MCL
SODIUM	6/12/2019	5.50	5.5	mg/L	NO MCL

### Unregulated Contaminants

*EPA has implemented the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) to collect data for contaminants that are suspected to be present in drinking water but do not currently have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act. The EPA uses the results of UCMR monitoring to learn about the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and to decide whether or not these contaminants will be regulated in the future. To view the City of Durango complete Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring visit (<https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/national-contaminant-occurrence-database-ncod>) Contaminants that were detected during our UCMR3 sampling and the corresponding analytical results are provided below.*

UCMR3 Contaminants	Year	Average	Range	Unit	MRL	Typical Source
MANGANESE	2019	2.08	0.54 – 5.9	µg/L	0.4	Erosion of natural deposits
BROMIDE	2019	0.008	0.006 – 0.01	mg/L	0.005	Erosion of natural deposits
TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON	2019	4.47	2.87 – 6.06	mg/L	0.5	Naturally present in the environment
HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5) GROUP	2019	21.3	7.0 – 37.4	µg/L	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
BROMINATED HALOACETIC ACIDS 6 GROUP	2019	2.5	0.3 – 5.6	µg/L	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA9) GROUP	2019	23.8	9.2 – 43.0	µg/L	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination

### Lead in Drinking Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems (especially for pregnant women and young children). It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested. Additional information is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead> or from the *Safe Drinking Water Hotline* 800-426-4791.

### Protecting Our Drinking Water

In an effort to ensure public health, the City of Durango works to protect its water system from the backflow of water from consumers' premises. Backflow from a property may contain potentially hazardous chemicals. For more information contact the Cross Connection Control Program at 970-375-4882.

### A Note about Fluoride

The City of Durango participates in the State of Colorado Water Fluoridation Program. The Water Treatment Plant adjusts the level of fluoride to achieve 0.7mg/L in the water delivered to the public as the optimum amount for oral health.

### Bacteriological Quality

The City of Durango maintains a minimum of 0.2mg/L of free chlorine residual throughout the entire distribution system. We perform weekly sampling of our water mains to ensure public health and quality of the water.

### 2019 Violations, Significant Deficiencies, and Formal Enforcement Actions

None

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.



**Beautiful Double Rainbow over Terminal Reservoir**